

Additional Information on the In Pew Solicitation

In-Pew Solicitation remains the most effective way to provide parishioners with an opportunity to make their **Partners in Charity** gift. Many parishes benefit from conducting an In-Pew Solicitation on Commitment Weekend (March 17 & 18, 2012), and some the following weekend (March 24 & 25, 2012).

It is important that all volunteers and liturgical ministers know when the solicitation will take place and how they are being asked to participate. The more planning and training that take place prior to Commitment Weekend, the smoother the process will be.

Description

The In-Pew Solicitation is most effective when it immediately follows the Partners in Charity speaker.

Parishioners are directed to the **Partners in Charity** envelopes contained in the pews/chairs or the ushers/ministers of hospitality/volunteers are called forward to distribute PIC envelopes.

Encourage those who have not yet made a gift to do so now. Stress the importance of 100% participation and that they make a pledge today. Strongly encourage parishioners to make a pledge on the envelope at mass, even if they want to pay online.

Remind those who have already given that they do not need to complete a envelope at this time. In order to not feel like they are not participating, they can take an envelope and simply write "advance gift" and turn it in when the ushers collect the gifts.

The parish has received a record of their gift from the Diocese. Thank them for their gift.

Walk parishioners through completing the envelope. A script has been provided for the speaker! It is helpful to have volunteers located throughout the church to provide assistance as needed.

Emphasize that parishioners can make a commitment today without having to write a check or enclose cash. Pledges can be paid over time. If they would like to set up automatic payments, please complete the inside of the envelope.

For parishioners who are using a credit card, remind them that they must include the expiration date of the card.

Several parishes have also published suggested amounts, i.e. if every family gave \$XX, we could easily exceed our parish goal. Every gift, big or small, provides crucial support to our community.

Stress the importance of prayer. Ask that every parishioner commit to praying for those in our Diocese who need our care, the agencies and programs who support them and for the success of the appeal. All families can participate by committing to prayer, even if they cannot make a financial gift.

Invite those who would like more information or additional assistance making their gift to stop by the table outside.

Thank parishioners who have made a gift. Ask those who have not yet made a gift to take an envelope home with them for prayerful consideration.